

# **South King County Projects Update**

Edition 74, Jan. 31, 2006

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## South King County traffic closures this week

#### Interstate 5

Crews have scheduled lane closures on northbound and southbound I-5 this week for paving and pavement marking. However, we can't perform this work in the rain, so all closures listed below for paving and pavement marking are tentative and could be postponed by wet weather.

- Tuesday
  - Two left lanes of northbound I-5 between S. 320<sup>th</sup> and Military Road will close from 6 p.m. to 5 a.m. for pavement marking.
  - The left lane of northbound I-5 between the Pierce County line and S. 320<sup>th</sup> will close from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. for paving.
- Wednesday
  - The right lane of southbound I-5 between Military Road and S. 320<sup>th</sup> will close from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. for pavement marking.
  - The left lane of northbound I-5 will close from the Pierce County line to S. 320<sup>th</sup> from 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. for paving.
- Thursday
  - The left lane of southbound I-5 between Military Road and S. 320<sup>th</sup> will close from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. for crews to access the median work zone (not weather dependent).
  - The left lane of southbound I-5 from S. 320<sup>th</sup> to the Pierce County line will close from 8 p.m. to 11 a.m. for paving.
- Friday
  - The left lane of southbound I-5 between Military Road and S. 320<sup>th</sup> will close from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. for crews to access the median work zone (not weather dependent).

## Rain drowning hopes of opening new HOV lanes and ramps next week

A few short rain breaks last week raised hopes that crews would be able to complete striping work and open the new HOV lanes and ramps at South 317<sup>th</sup> the week of Feb. 6, just in time for the Feb. 11 bus service change. We're still hopeful we can accomplish this goal, but it will be more of a challenge due to this past weekend's deluge and forecasts of more rain this week.

In spite of the rain, crews have completed a lot of work recently. We finished laying the asphalt on the southern half of the new HOV ramps and striped that section. We finished installing most of the barriers and we've been installing signs, traffic signal systems on the bridge, and guardrail.

But before the opening we must complete the critical tasks of striping the rest of the ramps and re-striping the southbound freeway lanes, and for these tasks we need dry weather. Engineers have devised plans that will condense what would normally be several nights of striping into one night. We're waiting for Mother Nature to provide that opportunity so we can stripe the pavement and open this project to the drivers who have been so patient with our construction over the past nineteen months. Visit <a href="WSDOT's project Web page">WSDOT's project Web page</a> for the latest traffic closure information.

### February bus service change enhanced by new transit center

Transit agencies will implement schedule and route changes the weekend of Feb. 11-12. Many riders in south King County will begin enjoying the benefits of Sound Transit's new Federal Way Transit Center. Each day over 200 buses from Sound Transit, King County Metro and Pierce Transit will use the new transit center, beginning Saturday, Feb. 11. Sound Transit has added a new route, 577, between Seattle and Federal Way. Route 577 will run every 15 to 30 minutes during rush hours.

For details on bus service changes, please visit the transit agency Web sites:

- Sound Transit
- King County Metro (information available tomorrow Feb. 1)
- Pierce Transit

### Highway advisory radio updates

Tune your radio to 1520 AM to hear a new project update each week on I-5 in Federal Way. Questions or comments? E-mail Laura Johnson.

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